

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 09643 041011Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00
EB-07 EPG-02 FAA-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /097 W
-----041105Z 123867 /16

R 040841Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1778
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL UDORN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 9643

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, LA, TH
SUBJECT: THAI DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR LAOS

1. MFA UNDERSECRETARY WONG PHONNIKON DEPARTED BANGKOK
MAY 4 AS HEAD OF THAI DELEGATION TO PARTICIPATE IN AID
TURNOVER CEREMONY IN VIENTIANE FOLLOWING DAY. MFA
ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT SOURCE SAID AID CONSISTS
ESSENTIALLY OF FINAL CONSIGNMENT OF PIGLETS AUTHORIZED
UNDER 1975 AID PROGRAM FUNDED AT \$750,000. SHE NOTED
THAT, IF LAO WISH TO FINALIZE AVIATION AGREEMENT DURING
WONG'S VISIT, THE UNDERSECRETARY WILL ONLY BE ABLE
TO LISTEN TO WHAT LAO HAVE TO SAY. SOURCE ADDED THAT
THERE IS GENERAL EXPECTATION AT MFA THAT LAO WILL USE
OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS OTHER MATTERS WITH WONG, AS WELL.

2. COMMENT. THE PENDING VISIT HAS BEEN A WELL-KEPT
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SECRET IN BANGKOK. THE THAI APPEAR TO BE USING A
RELATIVELY MINOR EVENT AS AN EXCUSE TO SEND ANOTHER
DELEGATION TO LAOS (WONG'S LAST VISIT WAS IN MID-
FEBRUARY) AND TRY TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THAT
COUNTRY, PRESUMABLY BUILDING UPON PROGRESS MADE IN
TALKS WITH LPDR DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER NOUPHAN
SITPHASAI DURING ESCAP PLENARY HERE LAST MONTH.

3. BANGKOK WORLD OF MAY 4 QUOTED WONG PRIOR TO DEPARTURE
AS STATING THAI DELEGATION WOULD CONFIRM TO LPDR
THAT RTG IS STILL WILLING TO CONTINUE GIVING AID TO
LAOS TO THE EXTENT IT CAN, WITHOUT CHANGE. AS OPPOSED
TO COMMENT OF MFA SOURCE, HE REPORTEDLY SAID HE EXPECTED
TO RAISE THE SUBJECT OF THE AIR AGREEMENT SO THAT
FLIGHTS COULD RESUME BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES
IMMEDIATELY. FINALLY, HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THE TWO
COUNTRIES WOULD APPOINT AMBASSADORS SOON.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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